AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 1 schematically shows in cross section a turbine blade with a blade foot 1, platform 2, and also blade 3. Cooling air is supplied to the turbine blade from the blade foot 1 by means of the cavity 4 visible in the cross section. A dust discharge aperture 5 is shown at the blade tip in the forward region, i.e., in the leading region of the turbine blade, and dirt particles entrained with the cooling medium are discharged, due to their inertia, from the hollow channel 4 through the said dust discharge aperture 5. Due to the high flow speed of the cooling medium at the deflection of the cooling channel 4 present at the dust discharge aperture 5, the particles, due to their large mass, take the path through the dust discharge aperture 5 and do not pass via the deflection into the further course of the cooling channel, in which relatively dust-free air thus flows. Accordingly, the path through the dust discharge aperture 5 branches off the coolant passage at a curved flow section and is arranged as a tangent to the curved flow section. The path through the dust discharge aperture 5 can be arranged to extend in the flow direction of the coolant along the tangential flow path. The cooling channel 4 and the further course of the cooling channel can be straight. This cooling air flows past the pins 6 and leaves the blade by means of apertures at the rear edge, for example, by means of a slit. As shown, the coolant passage can be configured to establish series flow from the channel 4 to the curved section, from the curved section to the adjacent section, and further to the apertures. The dust discharge aperture 5 is, according to the invention, constituted with a large enough diameter for the introduction of a borescope to be

possible through this aperture 5 into the interior of the turbine blade. In this manner, the interior of this component can be inspected at any time, even in the built-in state.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

Finally, FIG. 2 shows a further example, in which the dust discharge aperture 5 however runs, not radially, but in the axial direction. In this example also, the blade foot 1, platform 2, and turbine blade 3 can again be seen in cross section. The cooling channel 4 runs in the same way as in FIG. 1. The dust discharge aperture 5 includes a wall flush with a wall of the cooling channel 4. The wall has a common surface that partially defines the channel 4 and channel 7. The path through the channel 7 can be arranged to extend in the flow direction of the coolant along the tangential flow path. The cooling channel 4 and the adjacent section of the cooling channel can be straight. The dust hole 5, which in this example runs parallel to the machine axis, makes inspection possible with an inspection tool introduced in the hot gas path. The mechanism of dust extraction is the same as that in FIG. 1. In this example, the dirt particles, due to their inertia and the high flow speed of the deflected cooling medium, take the path via the channel 7 leading to the dust hole 5, while the cooling medium is deflected at the branch without problems in the direction toward the machine axis and is therefore conducted, relatively dust-free, past the pins 6 to the cooling air apertures at the rear edge of the blade. Accordingly, the channel 7 (passage) leading to the dust hole 5 branches off the coolant passage at a curved flow section and is arranged as a tangent to the curved flow section. As shown, the coolant passage can be configured to establish series flow from the channel 4 to the curved section, from the curved section to the adjacent section, and

further to the cooling air apertures. The dust hole 5 or the channel 7 leading to this are hence again constituted with a large enough diameter for the introduction of an inspection tool 8, particularly a borescope, to be possible into the interior of the turbine blade.